

INTRODUCTION

U.S. Naval Base Guam (NBG), sometimes referred to as “Big Navy” is located in Santa Rita, Guam (with sites also located in Barrigada and Dededo) and is approximately 3,700 miles west of Hawaii, 1,500 miles east of the Republic of the Philippines and 1,550 miles south of Japan. The island of Guam is the westernmost territory of the United States and is the southernmost island of the Marianas chain. Comprised of six noncontiguous sites located throughout the 212 sq mi island, NBG encompasses over 18,000 acres of land, of which ~17,800 acres are covered on Guam under the Regional Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) for Joint Region Marianas. Regional ICRMP also covers more than 16,000 acres on the island of Tinian. Tinian, one of the three main islands of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), lies 80 mi north of Guam and 3 mi south of Saipan. NBG consists of approximately 3,700 buildings, 13,009 feet of berth, over 70 million gallons of petroleum oil and lubricant (POL) storage, one homeported ship, the USS Frank Cable (AS-40), and three homeported submarines, the USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN-705), the USS Houston (SSN-713), and the USS Buffalo (SSN-715). The cultural resource management program serves as a leader in environmental performance and enhancement while serving the vision of Naval Base Guam to continue to meet or exceed the service expectations of its fleet customers, and create and maintain an environment for work, recreation and family life which makes Guam a desirable place to be stationed. NBG contributes to the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) goals to ensure the Department of the Navy (DON) is one of the best employers in the nation. More than 10,000 employees enter the gates of NBG daily, and each day, these employees continue to prove why we are the very best of our United States Navy and the world’s finest Naval Base.



BACKGROUND

Cultural resources management is a vital part of the numerous NBG programs. Taking a lead in environmental protection, NBG works closely with the local governments of Guam and the CNMI to ensure fleet, family and mission readiness as they relate to the fulfillment of NBG’s environmental objectives.

NBG continues to demonstrate great improvement in its cultural resources program and has a detailed ICRMP which is a 5-yr plan in compliance with federal law and regulations and Navy/Department of Defense (DOD) policy and procedures. The goal of ICRMP is to preserve and protect significant archaeological, architectural, and cultural resources (also known as historic properties) on Guam and CNMI lands under DON.

Orientation to Mission: It is the mission of NBG to:

- Support the fighters of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and other operating forces operating from, serviced by or supplied through Guam, and trained on Tinian;
- Support the fighters based here or attached to our tenant commands;
- Support the families of those fighters stationed in Guam.

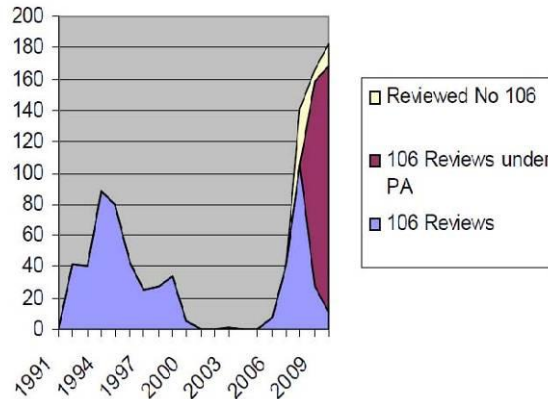
PROGRAM SUMMARY

NBG is committed to fulfilling the CNO goals, and has met or exceeded all planned objectives. The NBG cultural resources management program has achieved numerous accomplishments within the past fiscal year, all of which support protection of non-replaceable and highly fragile historical and cultural resources. The cultural resources manager oversees 2,063 historic properties on two islands and associated submerged lands. Of these historical properties, 874 are located on the island of Guam and 1,189 are located on the island of Tinian. The objectives for managing cultural resources on NBG are outlined in ICRMPs for both Guam and Tinian which identify overall goals to preserve and protect significant archaeological, architectural, and historic properties which fall under DON stewardship. NBG remains consistent in meeting or exceeding the high expectations placed upon its cultural resources management program by the DON. In the past fiscal year the cultural resources program has improved planning and programming efforts and implemented time-saving consultation measures that have translated to an ability to review more projects and reducing project costs while still providing oversight and protection to the many archaeological sites, traditional cultural places and historical architecture located at the installation. The cultural resources program has also overseen the archaeological recovery and eventual repatriation to the Japanese Government of seven Japanese WWII casualties located at three different locations on two different construction projects. Two Pre-European Contact Chamorro burials were also archaeologically recovered with reburial currently being planned in consultation with the Guam SHPO. In addition, two displaced latte stones, PreContact megalithic architectural elements that are important cultural symbols for the Chamorro people, were repatriated to the government of Guam

**ACCOMPLISHMENTS****Overall Cultural Resources Management:***Planning, Programming and Budgeting Improvements*

- In the beginning of FY2009, NBG signed the Programmatic Agreement (PA), which was first implemented in April 2009. The PA significantly streamlines the Section 106 process, allowing rapid turn around for review of projects located in low probability areas for cultural resources and fill lands on NBG, and expedited mitigation consultation for projects located in medium and high probability areas. The ability to save on time equates to cost savings for the Navy and efficient execution of mission requirements.

- Revision of the formal Section 106 consultation letter with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO); the Section 106 letter now more completely defines the statement of work, the area of potential effect, the identification of historic properties, the determination of effect, and the Section 106 evaluation, all of which are now certified by a Cultural Resources Manager that meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards. The Guam SHPO has specifically complimented NBG on the new format and has requested other federal and state agencies to use this letter format as an example in future Section 106 consultations.



- There has been a significant increase in the number of Section 106 reviews annually since 2005, from 0 to 215 consultations for FY2010.
- Review of the Mariana Islands Range Complex (MIRC) PA and assistance on the Section 106 consultation has been successfully completed. The PA covers all DON training in the Mariana Islands.
- Revision of the application and permit for Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) on NBG was completed by the cultural resources management program. Three ARPA permits have been issued since the revision.
- A report received in FY2009 revised the locations of archaeological sites discovered in previous Section 110 archaeological surveys for the Naval Munitions Area of NBG. Forty-two of forty-six sites known to be in the area were remapped to provide better location data for site management and future Section 106 consultations. An additional nine sites were located in the course of the study.

Status of ICRMP

The NBG Regional ICRMP prepared in FY2005 serves to preserve and protect significant archaeological, architectural and cultural resources. The NBG Regional ICRMP:

- Establishes priorities for cultural resources management complying with U.S. laws, DOD and Navy regulations, and the Governments of Guam and CNMI laws and regulations
- Provides management procedures for: 1) ongoing identification, maintenance, and enhancement of cultural resources, and 2) for inadvertent discoveries of both archaeological resources and human remains
- Promotes the use of cultural resources beneficial to the mission of the military, the resources themselves, and other public interests
- Integrates cultural resource management concerns and issues with Joint Region Marianas development, resource management and training needs
- Establishes requirements, goals, and targets that can be easily reflected in budget documents and decision-making processes

Transferability

In spite of change-of-commands, forced deployments, and absence or addition of military and civilian personnel, NBG's environmental program maintains program transferability through NBG's innovative use of the Base Operating Support Contractor (BOSC) provides the needed support to all Navy programs and projects as required, all of which enables NBG to thrive and accomplish its many goals despite transfer of leadership or personnel.

- A year in the making, a contract in excess of \$220,000 has been issued to address the curation of NBG cultural resources collections. The project will ensure that all NBG collections, whether held by contractors, the base, or Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Marianas (NAVFACMAR) will be labeled and packaged to current curatorial standards and will provide detailed recommendations.

Historic Buildings and Structure:

- The Maanot Reservoir, located on NBG Munitions Site, is possibly the oldest reservoir on Guam, predating World War II. A Phase I project was in place to demolish and replace the old Maanot Reservoir. Realizing the significance of this reservoir and the adverse effect to a potential historic property, the project was immediately modified. Had the project not been descoped, the NBG Cultural Resources Management Program would have had to request an assessment by a historical architect to determine its eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places and a Section 106 consultation with Guam SHPO. Descoping the project not only preserved a historic structure, but proved to be a cost savings measure for the Navy.

- Impacts from ground disturbing activities have been reduced by seeking modification to footprints to avoid impacts to subsurface archaeological resources, archaeological monitoring in areas with high probabilities for inadvertent discoveries and utilizing the excavation permitting process to monitor impacts.
- In November 2009, an Architectural Inventory was conducted for NBG. The inventory surveyed and made a National Register Evaluation of facilities at Main Base, Polaris Point, Piti Power Station, and Drydock Island. The architectural inventory survey covered 151 facilities. In addition, the report generated Cold War historic contexts and summarized information on the WWII era for all sections of NBG.
- Dating back to ~ 800 A.D., latte stones were used by the native Chamorro people as a structural support for homes. Today, these historical structures are a symbol of the Chamorro identity. NBG holds strong to the culture of the island in preserving these structures, and upon request of the local government, has returned displaced latte stones to support cultural and historic purposes and institutions.



Archaeological Resources:

The NBG cultural resources management program oversaw and managed the archaeological recovery of nine human remains discovered at three separate development projects on NBG.

- Two Japanese WWII casualties have been successfully repatriated to the Government of Japan.
- Five additional Japanese WWII casualties are in the process of repatriation.

- Two Pre-Contact Chamorro burials have been recovered and are in the process of analysis and preparation for respectful reburial in consultation with the Guam SHPO.



- Two ARPA permits were issued, 1) to study Haputo Village (archaeological mapping and vegetation mapping to determine pre-contact areas) and 2) to investigate the chemical composition and dating of pictographs (cave art paintings) within the NBG Munitions Site. The proposed pictograph study puts NBG on the cutting edge of the scientific study of these cultural resources.

Cultural Resources Awareness and Education:

Awareness Programs for Military and Civilian Personnel

NBG promotes cultural and environmental responsibility and awareness by coordinating multiple cultural awareness and historic site tours, including five nature hikes offered throughout the year. In 2010, NGB offered up to 30 historic site tours, to groups of all ages. The group of participants range from less than 10 to 100 people. Participants in the past year have included: local public school students, local residents, WWII veterans (groups and individuals/American and Japanese), mainland university students studying history, a PhD candidate studying the worlds pre-war Cable Stations, distinguished visitors (Americans and Japanese dignitaries) and their spouses, and Korean and Japanese military cadets.

Community Relations:

Public Awareness Programs

Public awareness programs that NGB partakes in to ensure community involvement as well as cultural resource preservation efforts include a series of television vignettes on the local military channel highlighting Navy cultural resources and historic sites.

Additionally, NGB updated an old historic sites booklet and is preparing it for publication in FY2011. The booklet gives a brief introduction of NGB and offers a look at the many historic sites on the base. The booklet will be used for visitors, students, and residents of the base.

NBG also coordinates with the Government of Guam to allow public access to certain sites on Navy properties during culturally important-times of the year. This includes annual memorial ceremonies at the Sumay Cemetery and Fena Massacre Memorial site in July during Guam's Liberation festivities and in November at Sumay Cemetery on All Soul's Day. Approximately 60-100 people attend each event to honor their ancestors and lost loved ones. In addition, in April 2010, the first "Back to Sumay Day" was held at the site of the pre-war Sumay Village now located on NBG where an estimated 700 people with ties to the Village and from the Guam community attended.



Improved Quality of Life for Personnel and Enhancement of the Military Mission:

NBG recognizes the importance of the quality of life for its servicemen and their families, as it is relevant to the success of the NBG mission. Continuous efforts to improve the quality of NBG are ongoing, through beautification and maintenance efforts of historic parks and properties, including projects that include signage of historical properties.

